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31A-1707-63

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT: Agency Computer for Use by CIA

1. This memorandum is for your information only.
2. During a meeting on 5 April with members of the Automatic Data Processing Staff, Colonel White agreed to approach General Carter at the earliest possible time to obtain funds and approval for the acquisition of an IBM 7090. In view of your memorandum to him, I would assume that Colonel White will advise you directly of the results of General Carter's decision. We will remain alert, however, for whatever fallout of decision-making may come to us through ADPS.
3. The ADPS has determined that an IBM 7090 will best satisfy our needs as well as other computer requirements throughout the Agency. There is some question, however, as to the compatibility of the IBM 7090 with the Sperry Rand 490 owned by WPIC. It was originally planned that WPIC could use some of the programming done in behalf of our operational missions to aid them in their own plotting. If the systems are not compatible, however, this, of course, means some duplication of effort.
4. Not anxious to engage in any political debate on the merits or disadvantages of IBM equipment versus Sperry Rand equipment, we have adopted the philosophy of merely stating our computer requirements to the representatives of ADPS and let them, since it is their business, determine what machine will best suit our needs. We did, however, take the opportunity to advise WPIC of the status of our computer program, trusting that should they have any serious objections, they can register the same through their channels.

JACK C. LEBFORD
COLONEL, USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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